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Eastern Illinois University

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Faculty interact at football game

BY ROBYN DROZD

STAFF REPORTER

Kathy Reed has worked for Eastern for 12 years. A normal day for Reed consists of her instructing in the Communication Studies Department, but Saturday, along with approximately 450 people, she cheered on the Panthers compliments of Eastern.

Reed, who was with her husband, John, and son, Jase, attended the Panther Football Faculty Family Day.

It was their first time attending an event put

on for the faculty and their families, Reed said.

For the faculty and their families who attended, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, chips and cookies were available. Beverages were also served. The event began at noon behind O'Brien Stadium. As an added bonus, faculty members were admitted to the football game for free. The Panthers defeated Tennessee Tech, 31-20.

Reed and her family have gone to more games this season compared to any other season and always hope the Panthers do well, she said.

The laughter and the smell of burgers cooking continued to fill the air before the big game

against Tennessee Tech.

"This is a way to get faculty socially engaged," said Mildred Pearson, director of faculty development. "While we stress teaching, research and services, this is just another component in building a learning community."

On Sept. 23, the first event to celebrate faculty and their families took place. Pearson organized the event, which nearly 300 faculty members attended. The first event was a success there was no time to waste in putting on another.

Reed said she would like to see more of these events. It gives faculty the social opportunity to

"This is just another component in building a learning community."

MILDRED PEARSON,
DIRECTOR OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

mingle with other faculty outside of work, which doesn't happen often, she said.

As for the weather, "It's gorgeous! It's sunny and people can come out here with no coats," said Colleen Peterlich, who works in the president's office.

DEN, Monday, Nov 14, 2005, p. 1